

ASSASSINATION INFORMATION COMMITTEE

October 28, 1975

Friends:

-- "Your experiences with the group sound typical. By the time you've figured out who are the agents and who are the fools, it's too late."
(Mae Brussell to one of our members)

Bill Depperman is either an agent or a fool. It really doesn't matter which because he has succeeded in disrupting our group to the extent that we can no longer continue functioning as formerly.

The AIC had hoped to be an open organization, welcoming anyone interested in working around assassinations as a political issue. One person, Bill Depperman, took advantage of this openness. He demanded to be allowed to share the stage with Mark Lane, who we were bringing to New York on the 15th of November.

Although we had offered him an opportunity to "table" at that presentation and to speak at a separate forum, this did not satisfy him. He was interested in "selling" his particular line, namely 1) that E. Howard Hunt and Frank Sturgis were the "tramps" arrested in Dallas on November 22, 1963; 2) If Lane did not support this opinion, Lane himself was working for the CIA; 3) Not allowed to present his opinions at the Lane meeting, Depperman threatened to disrupt that meeting. What kind of member of an organization publicly disrupts his own organization? 4) Finally, he demanded that the AIC condemn any congressional bill to reopen the assassination inquiries except the Gonzalez bill--a position sure to meet with resistance from the Citizens' Commission of Inquiry--Mark Lane's lobbying group.

Depperman had not been in regular attendance at our Thursday evening meetings--when he did come it was to engage in obstreperous debate--until October 23rd, when he showed up with a dozen or so of his friends. (Some of whom's knowledge of the case did not include knowing who Mark Lane was.)

To make this sordid story shorter, the packed group voted in all of Depperman's demands. The following morning Depperman called Lane's office, and as a result Lane has cancelled his New York appearance. Depperman also demanded the keys to the AIC office, and after failing to get them physically, he took "his side of the story" to every other occupant of the building at 339 Lafayette Street.

Finding it impossible to continue under these conditions, we have vacated the office and regrouped to become a research/action organization.

This issue is of far too great importance to waste time with this child's play. If we are unable to hold open meetings without disruption we will not attempt to do so. We will, however, continue to compile and disseminate information on political assassination. Since we will now focus all our efforts on this task rather than struggling to co-ordinate weekly meetings, we will, hopefully, be more efficient. You being on our mailing list will, of course, be informed of our research. We strongly urge that other similar groups be formed and that contact be maintained.

Peace,

The Research/Action Group on Political Assassinations